

REMARKS

Claims 12-15, 17-19, and 21-33 were previously pending. Claims 21, 24-26, and 29 were previously cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 22-23, 27-28, and 30-33 are also cancelled. No new claims have been added. The remaining pending claims 12-15 and 17-19 have been allowed.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 22-23, 27-28, and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which is not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Applicants disagree that claims 22-23, 27-28 and 30 recite limitations not supported by the disclosure as originally filed. Nonetheless, Applicants cancel claims 22-23, 27-28, and 30 thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 31-33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the teaching of Winston, in U.S. Patent No. 5,348,588 (Winston) in view of Katzakian et al., in U.S. Patent No. 3,928,192 (Katzakian et al.).

Applicants disagree that claims 31-33 would have been obvious over the combined teaching of Winston and Katzakian et al. Nonetheless, Applicants cancelled claims 31-33 thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12-15 and 17-19 have been allowed. Thus, because only these allowed claims remain pending, this application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Amendments and Remarks, which are incorporated herein, this application is in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this Response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time.

No fee is due. If there is a fee occasioned by this Response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50/0214.

Respectfully submitted,

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